

S/N 10/533,133

Reply to Office Action of June 22, 2009

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Amended claim 1) A flat-folded personal respiratory face mask comprising:
  - a first portion and a second portion, connecting with each other along at least one common edge, flat-foldable along the common edge. Said common edge connects to a wearer's nose bridge and chin;
    - securing means to secure said ~~first and second portions~~ face mask on the face of a wearer, the securing means being fixed ~~to~~ along said common edge and thereby forming an effective respiratory seal as the wearer inhales and releasing the respiratory seal as the wearer exhales, the securing means attaching to the face mask at a location substantially away from the periphery of the face mask ~~to provide a holding force therefrom~~; and
    - filtering means associated with the first and second portions for filtering inhaled air.

**Claim 2 has been withdrawn**

2. (Amended claim 3) A flat-folded face mask as claimed in claim 2 1 wherein said essential area face mask is adaptive to an extensive range of face sizes which is defined by eye-to-chin distance at least ranging from at least 94mm to 114 mm as shown in figure 16 and figure 17
3. (Amended claim 4) A flat-folded face mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein said securing means comprises an elastic headband or ear loop.
4. (Amended claim 5) A flat-folded face mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein said ~~filtering means includes the main body~~ first portion and second portion of the face mask are made of filtering sheet material, acting as filtering means.

S/N 10/533,133

Reply to Office Action of June 22, 2009

5. (Amended claim 6) A flat-folded face mask as claimed in claim 1 wherein  
~~said first and second portion filtering means includes a filter part integrated in the main body of the face mask are made of non-permeable material and said filtering means include a filter part integrated in the first and second portion of the face mask.~~

6. (Amended claim 7) A flat-folded face mask as claimed in claim + 6 wherein  
~~said filter part can be replaced by the wearer filtering means includes a user-replaceable filter part~~

7. (Amended claim 14) The personal respiratory face mask according to claim +2 3, wherein the ~~elastic headband or ear-loop means for securing the mask body~~ can be attached and released from the mask body by the wearer.

8. (Amended claim 15) The personal respiratory face mask according to claim +2 1-7, wherein stiffeners are incorporated into the ~~mask body first portion and second portion of from said common edge toward the face in the same elevation as said force (F) applied, reinforcing to~~ reinforce the mask body where stress is strongest and allowing the rest of the mask body to be more flexible.

9. (Amended claim 8) A process for making the flat-folded ~~personal respiratory~~ face mask as claimed in claim 1 comprising:

first step of folding a roll of sheet material along the length of the sheet material;  
second step of welding the folded sheet material along a pre-defined edge; and  
third step of cutting the shape of the face mask in the flat-folded configuration out of the roll of sheet material.

10. (Amended claim 9) The process for making the flat-folded ~~personal respiratory~~ face mask as claimed in claim 8 9 wherein said roll of sheet material includes at least two layers.

11. (Amended claim 10) ~~The~~ A process for making the flat-folded ~~personal respiratory~~ face mask as claimed in claim 1 comprising:

folding a flat sheet material;

S/N 10/533,133

Reply to Office Action of June 22, 2009

welding the folded sheet material along a pre-defined edge; and  
cutting the shape of the face mask in the flat-folded configuration out of the sheet  
material.

12. (Amended claim 11) The process for making the flat-folded ~~personal respiratory~~ face  
mask as claimed in claim ~~10~~ 11 wherein said sheet material includes at least two layers.

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**Claims 12,13 and claims 16-24 has been withdrawn**